

# Fulbright Lays French Hostility To Alliance to Poor War Record

By Laurence Stern  
 Staff Reporter

Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) said yesterday France is hostile to the Atlantic Alliance because she is still "overcompensating" for her "bad performance during World War II."

"The performance of France during World War II was not very creditable," said the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in a television interview. As a result French pride has been "deeply wounded," he added.

Fulbright's statement was one of the most barbed expressions yet of Congressional impatience with the present drift of Gaullist policies.

He spoke on the program "Issues and Answers," over station WMAL-TV (ABC).

French pride has not only been wounded by failure in war, continued Congress's

chief spokesman on foreign affairs, but also by the country's "failure to operate a self-governing democracy" in the postwar years.

It is necessary to handle people wounded in this way "with kid gloves," said Fulbright.

Nonetheless, he warned that if President Charles de Gaulle persists in championing restrictive European Common Market tariff policies, the United States will be forced to withdraw troops from Europe.

The Arkansas Senator singled out stiff Common Market tariff restrictions on poultry as an example of the kind of agricultural policy that will "make it impossible for us to maintain an army in Europe at a cost of \$1 billion."

Arkansas is a major poultry producing state.

The Arkansas Democrat said he foresees as one of the bene-

fits of President Kennedy's current European trip the possibility of restoring the "severely shaken confidence" of Atlantic Alliance members.

He said of the President's voyage: "I don't like to put it in military terms — counter-attack—but our objective is to bring back into focus the importance of the Atlantic Alliance."

Fulbright also said he sees prospects ahead for easing tensions between the United States and Soviet Union.

He enumerated these grounds for such hopes: increasing rivalry between the U. S. S. R. and China; the burdensome cost of arms programs both for the Eastern and Western power blocs and, finally, the tapering off in Soviet foreign aid activities.

"I would hope to confirm in the Russian mind," he said, "that they have more in common with the Western peoples than with China."

Fulbright also acknowledged that the United States will have to live with a Castro-governed Cuba and the presence of Russian troops in the hemisphere "for a long time."

The only alternative, he observed, is full-scale invasion. And Fulbright said he sees "no excuse" now to mount an offensive against Cuba.